

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-36 are pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted 09/08/2008, 10/23/2008 and 10/27/2008. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bobby K. Truong, Reg. No. 37,499 on October 10th, 2008.

1. (Previously Presented) A machine-implemented method, comprising:
creating, by an operating system, a plurality of non-global operating system partitions within a global operating system environment provided by the operating system, wherein each non-global operating system partition serves to isolate processes running within that non-global operating system partition from other non-global operating system partitions within the global operating system environment, wherein enforcement of boundaries between the non-global operating system partitions is

carried out by the operating system, and wherein the plurality of non-global operating system partitions comprises a particular non-global operating system partition;

maintaining a file system for the particular non-global operating system partition, the file system comprising one or more mounts;

receiving a request from a process running within the particular non-global operating system partition to view information for mounts;

determining that the process is running within the particular non-global operating system partition; and

providing to the process information for only those mounts that are within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system is part of an overall file system maintained for the global operating system environment, and wherein the overall file system comprises one or more other mounts that are not within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein maintaining comprises:

associating the one or more mounts with the particular non-global operating system partition.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the particular non-global operating system partition has a mount data tracking structure associated therewith, and wherein associating comprises:

adding entries corresponding to the one or more mounts to the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition comprises a linked list of mount entries.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein providing comprises:

accessing the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition; and

determining, based upon the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition, the one or more mounts within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, and wherein providing comprises:

determining which mounts are within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition by determining which mounts are under the root directory, or a subdirectory thereof.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the operating system isolates the process within the particular non-global operating system partition by not allowing the process to access processes running in any other non-global operating system partition.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein creating comprises assigning a unique identifier to the particular non-global operating system partition.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein determining comprises:

extracting, from a data structure associated with the process, a partition identifier;
and

using the partition identifier to determine the particular non-global operating system partition.

11. Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, and wherein providing comprises:

indicating to the process that the root directory is one of the one or more mounts.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, wherein the root directory has an associated path, wherein each of the one or more mounts is under the root directory, or a subdirectory thereof, and wherein providing comprises:
showing, to the process, each of the one or mounts without including the path to the root directory.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

one or more processors; and

a storage having stored therein instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the operations of:

~~a mechanism for~~ implementing an operating system that creates a plurality of non-global operating system partitions within a global operating system environment provided by the operating system, wherein each non-global operating system partition serves to isolate processes running within that non-global operating system partition from other non-global operating system partitions within the global operating system environment, wherein enforcement of boundaries between the non-global operating system partitions is carried out by the operating system, and wherein the plurality of non-global operating system partitions comprises a particular non-global operating system partition;

~~a mechanism for~~ maintaining a file system for the particular non-global operating system partition, the file system comprising one or more mounts;

~~a mechanism for~~ receiving a request from a process running within the particular non-global operating system partition to view information for mounts;

~~a mechanism for~~ determining that the process is running within the particular non-global operating system partition; and

~~a mechanism for~~ providing to the process information for only those mounts that are within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition is part of an overall file system maintained for the global operating system environment, and wherein the overall file system comprises one or more other mounts that are not within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ maintaining comprises:

~~a mechanism for~~ associating the one or more mounts with the particular non-global operating system partition.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the particular non-global operating system partition has a mount data tracking structure associated therewith, and wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ associating comprises:

~~a mechanism for~~ adding entries corresponding to the one or more mounts to the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition comprises a linked list of mount entries.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ providing comprises:

~~a mechanism for~~ accessing the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition; and

~~a mechanism for~~ determining, based upon the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition, the one or more mounts within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, and wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ providing comprises:

~~a mechanism for~~ determining which mounts are within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition by determining which mounts are under the root directory, or a subdirectory thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the operating system isolates the process within the particular non-global operating system partition by not allowing the process to access processes running in any other non-global operating system partition.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ implementing the operating system comprises ~~a mechanism for~~ assigning a unique identifier to the particular non-global operating system partition.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ determining comprises:

~~a mechanism for~~ extracting, from a data structure associated with the process, a partition identifier; and

~~a mechanism for~~ using the partition identifier to determine the particular non-global operating system partition.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system has a root directory, and wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ providing comprises:

~~a mechanism for~~ indicating to the process that the root directory is one of the one or more mounts.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, wherein the root directory has an associated path, wherein each of the one or more mounts is under the root directory, or a subdirectory thereof, and wherein ~~the mechanism for~~ providing comprises:

~~a mechanism for~~ showing, to the process, each of the one or mounts without including the path to the root directory.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, wherein the root directory has an associated path, wherein each of the one or more mounts is under the

root directory, or a subdirectory thereof, and wherein the mechanism for providing comprises:

a mechanism for showing, to the process, each of the one or mounts without including the path to the root directory.

25. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable storage medium, comprising:
instructions for causing one or more processors to implement an operating system that creates a plurality of non-global operating system partitions within a global operating system environment provided by the operating system, wherein each non-global operating system partition serves to isolate processes running within that non-global operating system partition from other non-global operating system partitions within the global operating system environment, wherein enforcement of boundaries between the non- global operating system partitions is carried out by the operating system, and wherein the plurality of non-global operating system partitions comprises a particular non-global operating system partition;

instructions for causing one or more processors to maintain a file system for the particular non-global operating system partition, the file system comprising one or more mounts;

instructions for causing one or more processors to receive a request from a process running within the particular non-global operating system partition to view information for mounts;

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine that the process is running within the particular non-global operating system partition; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to provide to the process information for only those mounts that are within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

26. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system is part of an overall file system maintained for the global operating system environment, and wherein the overall file system comprises one or more other mounts that are not within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

27. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to maintain comprises: instructions for causing one or more processors to associate the one or more mounts with the particular non-global operating system partition.

28. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 27, wherein the particular non-global operating system partition has a mount data tracking structure associated therewith, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to associate comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to add entries corresponding to the one or more mounts to the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition.

29. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 28, wherein the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition comprises a linked list of mount entries.

30. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 28, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to provide comprises: instructions for causing one or more processors to access the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition; and instructions for causing one or more processors to determine, based upon the mount data tracking structure associated with the particular non-global operating system partition, the one or more mounts within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition.

31. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to provide comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to determine which mounts are within the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition by determining which mounts are under the root directory, or a subdirectory thereof.

32. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the operating system isolates the process within the particular non-global operating system partition by not allowing the process to access processes running in any other non-global operating system partition.

33. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to implement the operating

system comprises instructions for causing one or more processors to assign a unique identifier to the particular non-global operating system partition.

34. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 33, wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to determine comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to extract, from a data structure associated with the process, a partition identifier; and

instructions for causing one or more processors to use the partition identifier to determine the particular non-global operating system partition.

35. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to provide comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to indicate to the process that the root directory is one of the one or more mounts.

36. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 25, wherein the file system for the particular non-global operating system partition has a root directory, wherein the root directory has an associated path, wherein each of the one or more mounts is under the root directory, or a subdirectory thereof, and wherein the instructions for causing one or more processors to provide comprises:

instructions for causing one or more processors to show, to the process, each of the one or mounts without including the path to the root directory.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-36 are allowed over the prior art made of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claims 1, 13 and 25, the examiner agrees with applicant argument on 08/22/2008 that " Applicants submit that Tucker does not qualify as a proper prior art reference. Applicants note that the present application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/469,558, which was filed on May 9, 2003, and which provides support for the claimed subject matter. Thus, the effective filing date of the present application is May 9, 2003. Since this date precedes the filing date (January 21, 2004) of Tucker, and is contemporaneous with the priority...." on page 15 and 16.

The term "machine-readable medium" as recited in claim 25 will be interpreted as the storage device for example RAM, ROM.

Dependent claims 2-12, 14-24 and 26-36 are allowed under the same reason as to claims 1, 13 and 25.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Baoquoc N. To whose telephone number is at 571-272-4041, or unofficial fax number for the purpose of discussion (571) 273-4041 or via e-mail BaoquocN.To@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached at 571-272-4107.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follow:

(571) 273-8300 [Official Communication]

/Baoquoc N To/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162
November 24th, 2008